

09-20-00

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

PTO/SB/05 (1/98)
Approved for use through 9/30/2000. OMB 0651-0032
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No. 4314
First Inventor or Application MASHIMO et al
Title WOBBLE SIGNAL DETECTION CIRCUIT.
Express Mail Label No. EL641006300US

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application

ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, D.C. 20231

1. ☒ *Fee Transmittal Form (e.g., PTO/SB/17)
2. ☒ Specification [Total 25]
 - Descriptive title of the Invention
 - Cross References to Related Applications
 - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D
 - Reference to Microfiche Appendix
 - Background of the Invention
 - Brief Summary of the Invention
 - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed)
 - Detailed Description
 - Claim(s)
 - Abstract of the Disclosure
3. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 U.S.C. 113) [Total 6]
4. Oath or Declaration [Total 3]
 - a. ☒ Newly executed (original or copy)
 - b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 C.F.R. 1.63(d))
 - i. ☐ [Note Box 5 below]
DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)
inventor(s) named in the prior application.
5. ☐ Incorporation By Reference (usable if Box 4b is checked)
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is
6. ☐ Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)
7. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)
 - a. ☐ Computer Readable Copy
 - b. ☐ Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)
 - c. ☐ Statement verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

8. ☐ Assignment Papers (cover sheet &
9. ☐ 37 C.F.R. 3.73(b) Statement ☒ Power of Attorney
10. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
11. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
12. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
13. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)
14. ☐ * Small Entity Statement(s) ☐ Statement filed in prior application,
15. ☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)
16. ☐ Other: _____

* A new statement is required to be entitled to pay small entity fees, except

17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box, and supply the requisite information below and in a preliminary amendment:

☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☐ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application _____ / _____

Prior application information: Examiner _____ Group / Art Unit _____

18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Label

or ☐ Correspondence address below

(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)

Name	Anderson, Kill & Olick, P.C.				
Address	1251 Avenue of the Americas				
City	New York	State	New York	Zip Code	10020-1182
Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	212-278-1000	Fax	212-278-1733

Name (Print/Type)	Eugene Lieberstein	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	24645
Signature		Date	9/19/2000

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box Patent Application, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

CLAIMS	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS
TOTAL CLAIMS (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(c) or (j))		10 -20* =	0	x \$ _____ =	\$ _____
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(b) or (i))		4 -3** =	1	x \$ 78.00 =	78.00
ASSIGNMENT RECORDAL FEE MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable) (37 C.F.R. § 1.16(d))				+ \$40.00 =	40.00
				BASIC FEE (37 C.F.R. § 1.16)	690.00
				Total of above Calculations =	808.00
Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (Note 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.9, 1.27 & 1.28).					
* Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent. ** Reissue independent claims over original patent.					TOTAL = 808.00

6. Small entity status:

- a. ☐ A small entity statement is enclosed, if (b) and (c) do not apply.
 b. ☐ A small entity statement was filed in the prior nonprovisional application and such status is still proper and desired.
 c. ☐ Is no longer claimed.

7. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit overpayments or charge the following fees to Deposit Account No. 01 - 1944:

- a. ☒ Fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16.
 b. ☐ Fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.
 c. ☐ Fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18.

8. ☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.9. ☐ New Attorney Docket Number, if desired _____

[Prior application Attorney Docket Number will carryover to this CPA unless a new Attorney Docket Number has been provided herein.]

10 a. ☐ Receipt For Facsimile Transmitted CPA (PTO/SB/29A)

- b.
- ☒
- Return Receipt Postcard (Should be specifically itemized, See MPEP 503)

11. ☐ Other: _____**NOTE:**The prior application's correspondence address will carry over to this CPA
UNLESS a new correspondence address is provided below.

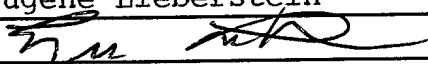
12. NEW CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

☐ Customer Number or Bar Code Labelor ☐ New correspondence address below

(Insert Customer No. or Attach bar code label here)

Anderson, Kill & Olick, P.C.					
1251 Avenue of the Americas					
City	New York	State	New York	Zip Code	10020-1182
Country	U.S.A.	Telephone	212-278-1000	Fax	212-278-1733

13. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print /Type)	Eugene Lieberstein
Signature	
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	24645
Date	September 19, 2000

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE OF MAILING - SEPARATE PAPER

IN THE MATTER OF: MASHIMO et al

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.: 4314

FOR: WOBBLE SIGNAL DETECTION CIRCUIT WITH IMPROVED CAPACITY TO
REPRODUCE ATIP INFORMATION AND OPTICAL DISK APPARATUS HAVING SUCH

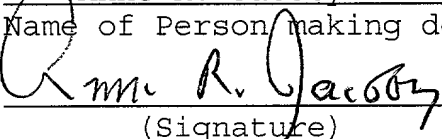
I hereby certify that the new application with:

 X transmittal letter
 X specification and claims
 X declaration
 X assignment with Recordation Form Cover Sheet
 6 sheets drawings
 priority documents

is being deposited with the United States Postal Services
"Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR
1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the
Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, DC 20231
on September 19, 2000.

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.

EL641006300US

Anne R. Jacoby
(Name of Person making deposit)

(Signature)

September 19, 2000
(Date)

Anderson, Kill & Olick, P.C.
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020-1182
(212) 278-1000

SPECIFICATION

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN THAT WE, AKIRA MASHIMO, a citizen of Japan residing at Tokorozawa-Shi, Saitama-Ken, Japan and KEISHI UENO, a citizen of Japan residing at Hanno-Shi, Saitama-ken, Japan have invented certain new and useful improvements in

WOBBLE SIGNAL DETECTION CIRCUIT WITH IMPROVED
CAPACITY TO REPRODUCE ATIP INFORMATION AND
OPTICAL DISK APPARATUS HAVING SUCH

of which the following is a specification:-

WOBBLE SIGNAL DETECTION CIRCUIT WITH IMPROVED
CAPACITY TO REPRODUCE ATIP INFORMATION AND OPTICAL DISK
APPARATUS HAVING SUCH

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention generally relates to wobble signal detection circuits and optical disk apparatus having such, and more particularly, to a wobble signal detection circuit for detecting an Absolute Time In Pregroove (ATIP) signal from an optical disk such as a compact disk recordable (CD-R) in an optical disk apparatus, and an optical disk apparatus having such.

Optical disks of a direct-read-after-write type include two types: write-once and erasable. With respect to a write-once optical disk, data is written thereon mainly by focusing a light beam into a spot on a data recording surface of the disk made from tellurium (Te) or bismuth (Bi) so as to form a pit in the disk at the location of the spot, or by focusing a light beam into a spot on a data recording surface of the disk made from Sb_2Se_3 , TeO_x or a thin film of organic dye so as to alter reflectivity of the disk at the location of the spot.

A CD-R, which is a write-once optical disk, includes a number of pregrooves as guiding tracks. The pregrooves radially wobble slightly at a center frequency of 22.05 kHz. Address information during recording called ATIP is multiplexed and recorded in the pregrooves by frequency shift keying (FSK) with a maximum deviation of ± 1 kHz.

During recording of data onto and reproduction

of data from the CD-R, a wobble signal having the above-mentioned center frequency of 22.05 kHz is reproduced from the pregrooves to detect the ATIP information, which is employed to confirm a recording position on the data recording surface of the CD-R during recording.

In other words, the ATIP information is detected in the following three modes: a first mode wherein a wobble signal is reproduced from an unrecorded CD-R, a second mode wherein a wobble signal is reproduced from a CD-R during the recording, and a third mode wherein a wobble signal is reproduced from a recorded CD-R.

FIG. 2 shows a pregroove 10 of a CD-R and a 4-part detector 12 (a photodetector) for detecting a light beam reflected back from the pregroove 10. The 4-part detector 12 is made of four detector parts 12A, 12B, 12C and 12D. In FIG. 2, the detector parts 12A and 12B form the left half and the detector parts 12C and 12D form the right half of the 4-part detector 12 with respect to a scanning direction indicated by an arrow. Conventionally, in the above-mentioned second mode, when the light beam is focused into a spot on the pregroove 10, the detector parts 12A, 12B, 12C, and 12D detect the reflected beam, and output detection signals A, B, C and D, respectively.

The detection signals are sampled and held. Then, the detection signals A and B detected by the respective detector parts 12A and 12B are added, and the detection signals C and D detected by the respective detector parts 12C and 12D are added.

The signal (C+D) is subtracted from the signal (A+B) so that an output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is obtained. Then, the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is compared with a reference voltage, so that a binary wobble signal is obtained.

FIG. 3A shows a waveform of the output level of the detection signal A. As shown in FIG. 3A, the power of the light beam alternately repeats a write power state (the maximum value) and a read power state (the minimum value). A portion of the waveform of FIG. 3A including lower peaks is shown on an enlarged scale along the time-base direction in FIG. 3B. When the light beam is in the read power state, the detection signal A shown in FIG. 3B is sampled and held at sampling timings corresponding to rising edges of a sampling pulse signal shown in FIG. 3C. The sampled and held signal includes a noise generated by the above-described sampling (a sampling noise), so that the signals (A+B) and (C+D) have waveforms shown in FIGS. 3D and 3E, respectively. The sampling noise includes a noise generated by the swing of a read light caused by the transition of the beam power state from the write power state to the read power state. Moreover, in the case of overwriting an erasable optical disk such as a compact disk rewritable (CD-RW), the sampling noise further includes a signal component previously recorded on the disk, which appears as a noise in the sampling. The subtraction of the signal (C+D) from the signal (A+B) is performed to offset the sampling noises so that the output signal (A+B) - (C+D) has a desirable waveform with reduced sampling noise as shown in FIG. 3F. Thereafter, the output signal (A+B) - (C+D) is compared with a reference voltage, so that the binary wobble signal is obtained.

However, the gain and offset of a sample-and-hold circuit are inconsistent among the individual circuits, and cause errors in the output level of the sample-and-hold circuit. Therefore, the waveforms of the sampled and held detection signals A, B, C and D include the sampling noises having different levels. For example,

when the sampling noise of the signal (A+B) shown in FIG. 1A has a noise level higher than that of the sampling noise of the signal (C+D) shown in FIG. 1B, the sampling noises are not completely offset by the subtraction.

5 Therefore, the sampling noise remains in the output signal (A+B) - (C+D) as shown in FIG. 1C. As the sampling is performed at higher speed, the noise level of the sampling noise becomes higher. Therefore, when a recording speed becomes so high that the sampling noise cannot be ignored,
10 there arises a problem of deterioration in performance of reproducing the ATIP information from the wobble signal.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is a general object of the present invention
15 to provide a wobble signal detection circuit and an optical disk apparatus having such in which the above-described disadvantage is eliminated.

A more specific object of the present invention is to provide a wobble signal detection circuit which can
20 effectively reduce a sampling noise of a wobble signal when the wobble signal is reproduced during recording so as to improve its capacity to reproduce ATIP information, and an optical disk apparatus having such.

The above objects of the present invention are
25 achieved by a wobble signal detection circuit for an optical disk apparatus detecting a wobble signal by focusing a light beam into a spot on a pregroove on an optical disk during recording of data onto and reproduction of data from the optical disk and including a
30 photodetector which detects first and second lights from first and second portions of the spot, respectively, and outputs first and second detection signals corresponding to respective power levels of the first and second lights,

the first and second portions being formed by splitting the spot into two portions in parallel with a scanning direction, the wobble signal detection circuit including: a sample-and-hold circuit sampling and holding the first and second detection signals output from the photodetector during the recording of the data onto the optical disk; lowpass filter means for reducing noise components of the respective first and second detection signals, the noise components being generated by sampling the respective first and second detection signals in the sample-and-hold circuit; and subtraction means for calculating a difference between the first and second detection signals respectively output from the first and second lowpass filter means so as to obtain the wobble signal.

According to the above wobble signal detection circuit, the wobble signal is obtained by reducing the sampling noise components of the detected signals output from the sample-and-hold circuit. Therefore, a sampling noise component of the wobble signal can be reduced effectively, thus achieving the improved capacity to reproduce ATIP information.

The above objects of the present invention are also achieved by a wobble signal detection circuit for an optical disk apparatus detecting a wobble signal by focusing a light beam into a spot on a pregroove on an optical disk during recording of data onto and reproduction of data from the optical disk and including a photodetector which detects first and second lights from first and second portions of the spot, respectively, and outputs first and second detection signals corresponding to respective power levels of the first and second lights, the first and second portions being formed by splitting the spot into two portions in parallel with a scanning

direction the wobble signal detection circuit including: a sample-and-hold circuit sampling and holding the first and second detection signals output from the photodetector during the recording of the data onto the optical disk;

5 gain adjustment means for adjusting noise levels of noise components included in the respective first and second detection signals to approximately the same level, the noise components being generated by sampling the respective first and second detection signals in the

10 sample-and-hold circuit; and subtraction means for calculating a difference between the first and second detection signals respectively output from the gain adjustment means.

The above objects of the present invention are

15 also achieved by an optical disk apparatus for recording data onto and reproducing data from an optical disk by detecting a wobble signal by focusing a light beam as a spot onto a pregroove on the optical disk, the optical disk apparatus including: a photodetector which detects

20 first and second lights from first and second portions of the spot, respectively, and outputs first and second detection signals corresponding to respective power levels of the first and second lights, the first and second portions being formed by splitting the spot into two

25 portions in parallel with a scanning direction; and a wobble signal detection circuit, the wobble signal detection circuit including: a sample-and-hold circuit sampling and holding the first and second detection signals output from the photodetector during the recording

30 of the data onto the optical disk; lowpass filter means for reducing noise components of the first and second detection signals, the noise components being generated by sampling the respective first and second detection signals

in the sample-and-hold circuit; and subtraction means for calculating a difference between the first and second detection signals respectively output from the lowpass filter means so as to obtain the wobble signal.

5 The above objects of the present invention are further achieved by an optical disk apparatus for recording data onto and reproducing data from an optical disk by detecting a wobble signal by focusing a light beam into a spot on a pregroove on the optical disk, the
10 optical disk apparatus including: a photodetector which detects first and second lights from first and second portions of the spot, respectively, and outputs first and second detection signals corresponding to respective power levels of the first and second lights, the first and
15 second portions being formed by splitting the spot into two portions in parallel with a scanning direction; and a wobble signal detection circuit, the wobble signal detection circuit including: a sample-and-hold circuit sampling and holding the first and second detection
20 signals output from the photodetector during the recording of the data onto the optical disk; gain adjustment means for adjusting noise levels of noise components included in the respective first and second detection signals to approximately the same level, the noise components being
25 generated by sampling the respective first and second detection signals in the sample-and-hold circuit; and subtraction means for calculating a difference between the first and second detection signals respectively output from the gain adjustment means.

30

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the

FIGS. 1A through 1C are diagrams showing waveforms of signals for illustrating the way a sampling noise is reduced in a conventional wobble signal detection circuit:

FIGS. 3A through 3F are diagrams showing waveforms of signals for illustrating the way the sampling noise is reduced in the conventional wobble signal detection circuit and in embodiments of the present invention:

FIG. 5 is a block diagram of a wobble signal detection circuit according to a second embodiment of the present invention; and

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

FIG. 4 is a block diagram of a wobble signal detection circuit according to a first embodiment of the present invention.

When the light beam is focused into a spot on the pregroove 10 shown in FIG. 2, the detector parts 12A, 12B, 12C and 12D detect the reflected beam, and supply the

detection signals A, B, C and D, respectively, to a sample-and-hold circuit 14.

The sample-and-hold circuit 14 which is also supplied with a mode selection signal from a CPU 100 is
5 switched OFF in the above-described first and third modes to pass the supplied detection signals as outputs, while switched ON in the above-described second mode to sample, hold and output the supplied detection signals. The detection signals A and B detected by the respective
10 detector parts 12A and 12B are output from the sample-and-hold circuit 14 to be added by an adder 16, and the detection signals C and D detected by the respective detector parts 12C and 12D are output from the sample-and-hold circuit 14 to be added by an adder 18.

15 Output signals (A+B) and (C+D) of the adders 16 and 18 are supplied to lowpass filters (LPF) 40 and 42, respectively. The LPFs 40 and 42 each of which is also supplied with the mode selection signal from the CPU 100 are switched OFF in the first and third modes to pass the
20 supplied signals as outputs, and are switched ON in the second mode to cut off high-frequency components of the supplied detection signals having frequencies higher than the wobble signal frequency of 22.05 ± 1 kHz by using, for example, a cutoff frequency of 24 kHz. The sampling noise
25 is a high-frequency component having a frequency of 200 kHz or higher.

In the first mode, the output signals (A+B) and (C+D) of the adders 16 and 18, after passing through the LPFs 40 and 42, are supplied to a subtracter 20 via
30 coupling capacitors C1 and C2, respectively. The subtracter 20 subtracts the output signal (C+D) from the output signal (A+B), and supplies a difference between the two output signals to a terminal 21 of a switch 22 as an

output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ because the terminal 21 of the switch 22 which is supplied with the mode selection signal from the CPU 100 is selected in the first mode. The output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ of the subtracter 20 is
5 supplied to a bandpass filter (BPF) 24, where unnecessary frequency components of the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ are reduced. The output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is further supplied to a highpass filter (HPF) 26 via a coupling capacitor C3, where unnecessary frequency components of
10 the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ are reduced. Then, the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is compared with a reference voltage V_{ref} by a comparator 28 and is output from a terminal 32 as a binary wobble signal.

On the other hand, in the third mode, the LPFs
15 40 and 42 are switched OFF, and a terminal 23 of the switch 22 is selected. An output signal $(A+B+RF)$ of the adder 16 including an RF signal reproduced from the CD-R is supplied to a voltage-controlled amplifier (VCA) 34, while an output signal $(C+D+RF)$ of the adder 18 including
20 the reproduced RF signal is supplied to a VCA 36. An automatic gain control (AGC) circuit 35 performs feedback control so that an amplitude of the output signal $(A+B+RF)$ of the VCA 34 has a predetermined level. Similarly, an AGC circuit 37 performs feedback control so that an
25 amplitude of the output signal $(C+D+RF)$ of the VCA 36 has the predetermined level.

A subtracter 38 subtracts the output signal $(C+D+RF)$ of the VCA 36 from the output signal $(A+B+RF)$ of the VCA 34. By this subtraction, the reproduced RF
30 signals included in the respective signals A, B, C, and D are offset, and the difference between the two output signals $(A+B+RF)$ and $(C+D+RF)$ is supplied to the terminal 23 of the switch 22 as an output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$.

As the terminal 23 is selected in the third mode, the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is supplied to the BPF 24 for the reduction of unnecessary frequency components, and is further supplied to the HPF 26 via the coupling capacitor C3 for further reduction of unnecessary frequency components. Thereafter, the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is compared with the reference voltage V_{ref} by the comparator 28 and is output from the terminal 32 as the binary wobble signal.

Further, in the second mode, the sample-and-hold circuit 14 and the LPFs 40 and 42 are switched ON, and the terminal 21 of the switch 22 is selected. As shown in FIG. 3A, the power of the light beam alternately repeats the write power state (the maximum value) and the read power state (the minimum value). When the light beam is in the read power state, the sample-and-hold circuit 14 samples and holds the detection signals at the sampling timings corresponding to the rising edges of the sampling pulse signal as previously described with reference to FIGS. 3B and 3C.

The output signals from the sample-and-hold circuit 14 each include the sampling noise, so that the output signals $(A+B)$ and $(C+D)$ of the adders 16 and 18 have the waveforms shown in FIGS. 3D and 3E, respectively.

However, as the sampling noises of the output signals $(A+B)$ and $(C+D)$ are reduced by the LPFs 40 and 42, the subtracter 20 calculates the difference between the output signals $(A+B)$ and $(C+D)$, and outputs the signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ having the waveform with reduced sampling noise as shown in FIG. 3F.

As the terminal 21 is selected, the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is supplied to the BPF 24 for the reduction of unnecessary frequency components, and is

5

10

15

25

30

outputs, while switched ON in the above-described second mode to sample, hold and output the supplied detection signals. The detection signals A and B detected by the respective detector parts 12A and 12B are output from the sample-and-hold circuit 14 to be added by the adder 16, and the detection signals C and D detected by the respective detector parts 12C and 12D are output from the sample-and-hold circuit 14 to be added by the adder 18.

The output signals (A+B) and (C+D) of the adders 16 and 18 are supplied to gain adjustment circuits 50 and 52, respectively. The gain adjustment circuits 50 and 52 each of which is supplied with the mode selection signal from the CPU 100 are switched OFF in the first and third modes to pass the supplied signals as outputs, and are switched ON in the second mode.

For example, the gain adjustment circuits 50 and 52 are adjusted by monitoring the output of the comparator 28 using a jitter meter in the manufacturing process, so that the jitter of the output of the comparator 28 is minimized. Therefore, the output levels of the gain adjustment circuits 50 and 52, which include errors caused by the inconsistent gains and offsets of the sample-and-hold circuit 14 and the adders 16 and 18, are set at approximately the same level.

In the first mode, the output signals (A+B) and (C+D) of the adders 16 and 18, after passing through the gain adjustment circuits 50 and 52, are supplied to the subtracter 20 via the coupling capacitors C1 and C2, respectively. The subtracter 20 subtracts the output signal (C+D) from the output signal (A+B), and supplies the difference between the two output signals to the terminal 21 of the switch 22 as the output signal (A+B) - (C+D) because the terminal 21 of the switch 22 which is

supplied with the mode selection signal from the CPU 100 is selected in the first mode. The output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ from the subtracter 20 is supplied to the BPF 24, where unnecessary frequency components of the output
5 signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ are reduced. The output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is further supplied to the HPF 26 via the coupling capacitor C3, where unnecessary frequency components of the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ are reduced. Then, the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is compared with the reference
10 voltage V_{ref} by the comparator 28 and is output from the terminal 32 as the binary wobble signal.

On the other hand, in the third mode, the gain adjustment circuits 50 and 52 are switched OFF, and the terminal 23 of the switch 22 is selected. The output
15 signal $(A+B+RF)$ of the adder 16 including the reproduced RF signal is supplied to the VCA 34, while the output signal $(C+D+RF)$ of the adder 18 including the reproduced RF signal is supplied to the VCA 36. The AGC circuit 35 performs feedback control so that the amplitude of the
20 output signal $(A+B+RF)$ of the VCA 34 has the predetermined level. Similarly, the AGC circuit 37 performs feedback control so that the amplitude of the output signal $(C+D+RF)$ of the VCA 36 has the predetermined level.

The subtracter 38 subtracts the output signal
25 $(C+D+RF)$ from the VCA 36 from the output signal $(A+B+RF)$ from the VCA 34. By this subtraction, the reproduced RF signals included in the respective detection signals A, B, C and D are offset, and the difference between the two output signals $(A+B+RF)$ and $(C+D+RF)$ is supplied to the
30 terminal 23 of the switch 22 as the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$. As the terminal 23 is selected in the third mode, the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is supplied to the BPF 24 for the reduction of unnecessary frequency components, and

is further supplied to the HPF 26 via the coupling capacitor C3 for further reduction of unnecessary frequency components. Thereafter, the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is compared with the reference voltage V_{ref} by the comparator 28 and is output from the terminal 32 as the binary wobble signal.

Further, in the second mode, the sample-and-hold circuit 14 and the gain adjustment circuits 50 and 52 are switched ON, and the terminal 21 of the switch 22 is selected. As shown in FIG. 3A, the power of the light beam alternately repeats the write power state (the maximum value) and the read power state (the minimum value). When the light beam is in the read power state, the sample-and-hold circuit 14 samples and holds the detection signals at the sampling timings corresponding to the rising edges of the sampling pulse signal as previously described with reference to FIGS. 3B and 3C.

The output signals from the sample-and-hold circuit 14 each include the sampling noise, so that the output signals $(A+B)$ and $(C+D)$ of the adders 16 and 18 have the waveforms shown in FIGS. 3D and 3E, respectively. However, as the noise levels of the sampling noises are adjusted to approximately the same level by the gain adjustment circuits 50 and 52, the subtracter 20 calculates the difference between the output signals $(A+B)$ and $(C+D)$, and outputs the signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ having the waveform with reduced sampling noise as shown in FIG. 3F.

As the terminal 21 is selected, the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$ is supplied to the BPF 24 for the reduction of unnecessary frequency components, and is further supplied to the HPF 26 via the coupling capacitor C3 for further reduction of unnecessary frequency components. Thereafter, the output signal $(A+B) - (C+D)$

is compared with the reference voltage V_{ref} by the comparator 28 and is output from the terminal 32 as the binary wobble signal.

As described above, the sampling noise included
5 in the wobble signal can be reduced effectively, and the capacity to reproduce the ATIP information during recording, particularly, during high-speed recording, can be improved.

According to this embodiment, the two gain
10 adjustment circuits 50 and 52 are provided. However, the number of the gain adjustment circuits is not limited to two. The gain adjustment circuits 50 and 52 can be replaced by either one of the two, or a gain adjustment circuit similar to the gain adjustment circuits 50 and 52
15 can be provided for each of the four output signals from the sample-and-hold circuit 14.

FIG. 6 is a block diagram of an optical disk apparatus according to a third embodiment of the present invention. According to FIG. 6, an optical disk 60 (a CD-
20 R) is actuated by a spindle motor (not shown) to rotate about a spindle shaft 62. A microcomputer 64, which corresponds to the CPU 100 in FIGS. 4 and 5, supplies a command signal to a servo circuit 66 based on a write/read command supplied from a host apparatus (not shown). The
25 servo circuit 66 controls the rotation of the above-mentioned spindle motor so as to maintain a constant linear velocity (CLV). The servo circuit 66 also controls the rotation of a thread motor (not shown) of an optical pickup 68 so that the optical pickup 68 is moved to a
30 desired track of the optical disk 60. The servo circuit 66 further controls the focusing and tracking of the optical pickup 68.

A laser beam emitted from the optical pickup 68

specifically disclosed embodiments, and variations and modifications may be made without departing from the scope of the present invention.

5 For example, according to the above-described embodiments, the present invention is applied to the CD-R, which is a write-once optical disk. However, the recording medium is not limited to the CD-R, and an erasable disk can replace the CD-R if an ATIP signal is included therein.

10 The present application is based on Japanese priority patent application No. 11-266090 filed on September 20, 1999, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

15

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

5

1. A wobble signal detection circuit for an optical disk apparatus which detects a wobble signal by focusing a light beam into a spot on a pregroove on an optical disk during recording of data onto and reproduction of data from the optical disk, and includes a photodetector which detects first and second lights from first and second portions of the spot, respectively, and outputs first and second detection signals corresponding to respective power levels of the first and second lights, the first and second portions being formed by splitting the spot into two portions in parallel with a scanning direction, said wobble signal detection circuit comprising:

a sample-and-hold circuit sampling and holding the first and second detection signals output from said photodetector during the recording of the data onto the optical disk;

lowpass filter means for reducing noise components of the respective first and second detection signals, the noise components being generated by sampling the respective first and second detection signals in said sample-and-hold circuit; and

subtraction means for calculating a difference between the first and second detection signals respectively output from said lowpass filter means so as to obtain the wobble signal.

2. The wobble signal detection circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein:

5 said photodetector detects third, fourth, fifth and sixth lights from third, fourth, fifth and sixth portions of the spot, respectively, and outputs third, fourth, fifth and sixth detection signals corresponding to respective power levels of the third, fourth, fifth and sixth detected lights, the third and fourth portions being formed by splitting the first portion into two portions perpendicular to the scanning direction, and the fifth and sixth portions being formed by splitting the second portion into two portions perpendicularly to the scanning direction; and

10 said sample-and-hold circuit samples and holds the third, fourth, fifth and sixth detection signals output from said photodetector during the recording of the data onto the optical disk,

15 said wobble signal detection circuit further comprising adding means to which the third, fourth, fifth and sixth detection signals are supplied from said sample-and-hold circuit so that the third and fourth detection signals are added to be supplied to said lowpass filter means, and the fifth and sixth detection signals are added to be supplied to said lowpass filter means.

25

30 3. A wobble signal detection circuit for an optical disk apparatus which detects a wobble signal by focusing a light beam into a spot on a pregroove on an optical disk during recording of data onto and reproduction of data from the optical disk, and includes a

5

10

15

20

25

30

5. The wobble signal detection circuit as claimed in claim 3, wherein said gain adjustment means adjusts a gain with respect to one of the first and second detection signals output from said sample-and-hold circuit.

5

6. An optical disk apparatus for recording data onto and reproducing data from an optical disk by detecting a wobble signal by focusing a light beam into a spot on a pregroove on the optical disk, said optical disk apparatus comprising:

a photodetector which detects first and second lights from first and second portions of the spot, respectively, and outputs first and second detection signals corresponding to respective power levels of the first and second lights, the first and second portions being formed by splitting the spot into two portions in parallel with a scanning direction; and

a wobble signal detection circuit,

said wobble signal detection circuit comprising:

a sample-and-hold circuit sampling and holding the first and second detection signals output from said photodetector during the recording of the data onto the optical disk;

lowpass filter means for reducing noise components of the respective first and second detection signals, the noise components being generated by sampling the respective first and second detection signals in said sample-and-hold circuit; and

subtraction means for calculating a difference between the first and second detection signals

respectively output from said lowpass filter means so as to obtain the wobble signal.

5

7. The optical disk apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein:

10 said photodetector detects third, fourth, fifth and sixth lights from third, fourth, fifth and sixth portions of the spot, respectively, and outputs third, fourth, fifth and sixth detection signals corresponding to respective power levels of the third, fourth, fifth and sixth detected lights, the third and fourth portions being
15 formed by splitting the first portion into two portions perpendicularly to the scanning direction, and the fifth and sixth portions being formed by splitting the second portion into two portions perpendicular to the scanning direction; and

20 said sample-and-hold circuit samples and holds the third, fourth, fifth and sixth detection signals output from said photodetector during the recording of the data onto the optical disk,

25 said wobble signal detection circuit further comprising an adding circuit to which the third, fourth, fifth and sixth detection signals are supplied from said sample-and-hold circuit so that the third and fourth detection signals are added to be supplied to said lowpass filter means, and the fifth and sixth detection signals
30 are added to be supplied to said lowpass filter means.

8. An optical disk apparatus for recording data onto and reproducing data from an optical disk by detecting a wobble signal by focusing a light beam into a spot on a pregroove on the optical disk, said optical disk apparatus comprising:

a photodetector which detects first and second lights from first and second portions of the spot, respectively, and outputs first and second detection signals corresponding to respective power levels of the first and second lights, the first and second portions being formed by splitting the spot into two portions in parallel with a scanning direction; and

a wobble signal detection circuit,

said wobble signal detection circuit comprising:

a sample-and-hold circuit sampling and holding the first and second detection signals output from said photodetector during the recording of the data onto the optical disk;

gain adjustment means for adjusting noise levels of noise components included in the respective first and second detection signals to approximately the same level, the noise components being generated by sampling the respective first and second detection signals in said sample-and-hold circuit; and

subtraction means for calculating a difference between the first and second detection signals respectively output from said gain adjustment means.

9. The optical disk apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said gain adjustment means adjusts a gain

with respect to each of the first and second detection signals output from said sample-and-hold circuit.

5

10. The optical disk apparatus as claimed in claim 8, wherein said gain adjustment means adjusts a gain with respect to one of the first and second detection signals output from said sample-and-hold circuit.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A wobble signal detection circuit is provided for an optical disk apparatus which detects a wobble signal by focusing a light beam into a spot on a pregroove on an optical disk during recording of data onto and reproduction of data from the optical disk, and includes a photodetector which detects first and second lights from first and second portions of the spot, respectively, and outputs first and second detection signals corresponding to respective power levels of the first and second detection lights. The wobble signal detection circuit includes: a sample-and-hold circuit sampling and holding the first and second detection signals output from said photodetector during the recording of the data onto the optical disk; lowpass filter means for reducing noise components of the respective first and second detection signals; and subtraction means for calculating a difference between the first and second detection signals respectively output from said lowpass filter means so as to obtain the wobble signal.

FIG. 1A
PRIOR ART

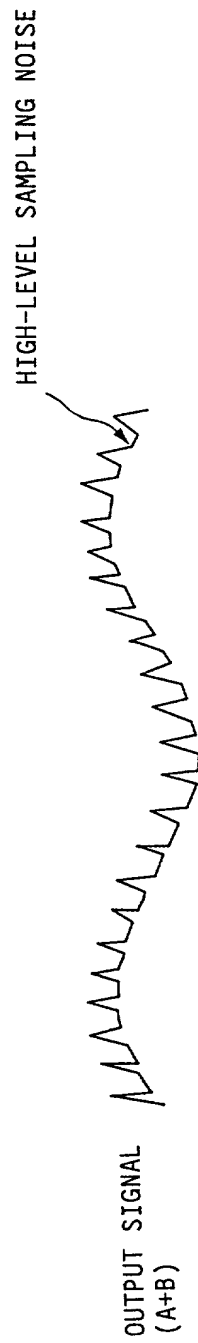


FIG. 1B
PRIOR ART

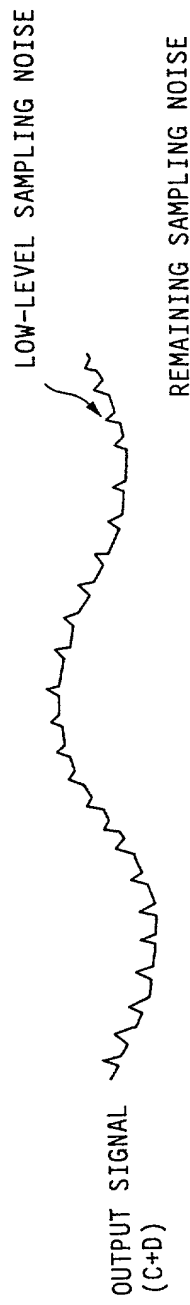
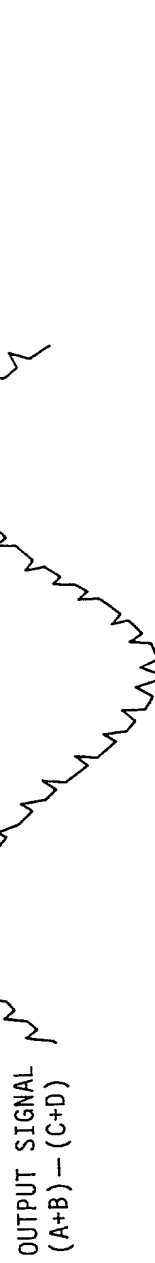


FIG. 1C
PRIOR ART



TIME

FIG. 2

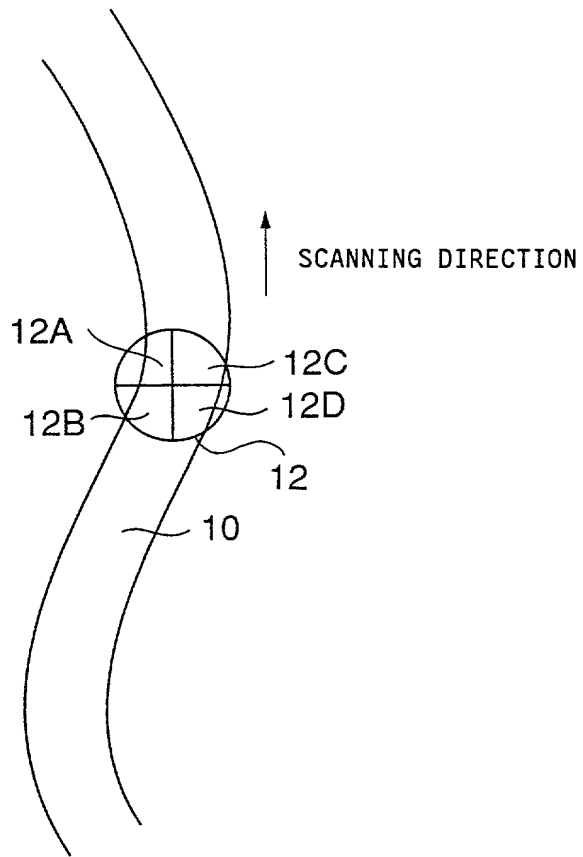


FIG. 3A

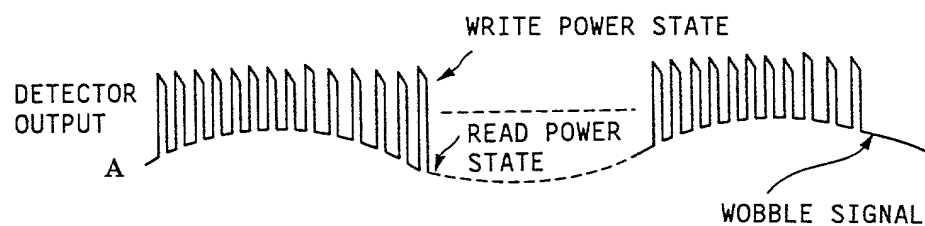


FIG. 3B



FIG. 3C

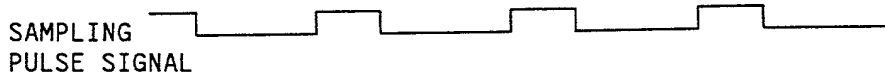


FIG. 3D



FIG. 3E



FIG. 3F

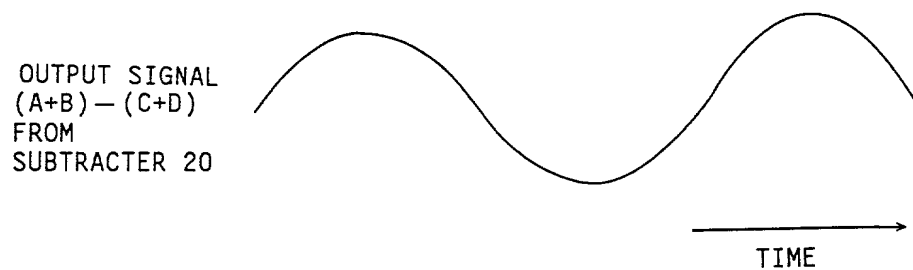
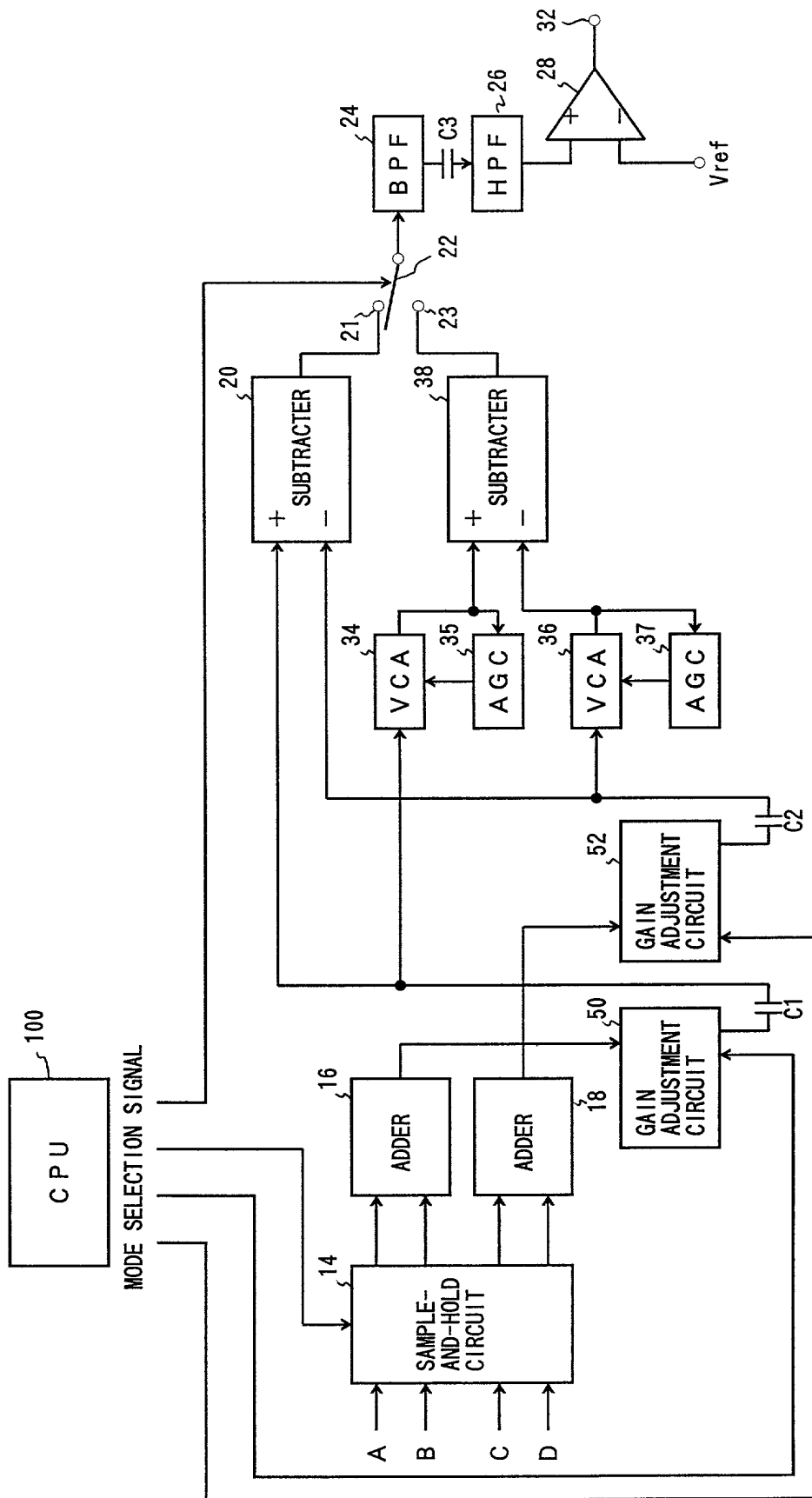


FIG. 5



Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

特許出願宣言書及び委任状

Japanese Language Declaration

日本語宣言書

下記の氏名の発明者として、私は以下の通り宣言します。

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

私の住所、私書箱、国籍は下記の私の氏名の後に記載された通りです。

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

下記の名称の発明に関して請求範囲に記載され、特許出願している発明内容について、私が最初かつ唯一の発明者（下記の氏名が一つの場合）もしくは最初かつ共同発明者であると（下記の名称が複数の場合）信じています。

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

WOBBLE SIGNAL DETECTION CIRCUIT WITH
IMPROVED CAPACITY TO REPRODUCE ATIP
INFORMATION AND OPTICAL DISK APPARATUS
HAVING SUCH

上記発明の明細書（下記の欄でx印がついていない場合は、本意に添付）は、

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

☐ 月 日に提出され、米国出願番号または特許協定条約国際出願番号を _____ とし、
(該当する場合) _____ に訂正されました。

☐ was filed on _____
as United States Application Number or
PCT International Application Number
_____ and was amended on _____
(if applicable).

私は、特許請求範囲を含む上記訂正後の明細書を検討し、内容を理解していることをここに表明します。

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

私は、連邦規則法典第37編第1条56項に定義されるとおり、特許資格の有無について重要な情報を開示する義務があることを認めます。

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

Japanese Language Declaration (日本語宣言書)

私は、米国法典第35編119条(a)-(d)項又は365条(b)項に基づき下記の、米国外の国の少なくとも一カ国を指定している特許協力条約365(a)項に基づく国際出願、又は外国での特許出願もしくは発明者証の出願についての外国優先権をここに主張するとともに、優先権を主張している、本出願の前に出願された特許または発明者証の外国出願を以下に、枠内をマークすることで、示しています。

Prior Foreign Application(s)

外国での先行出願 (Patent Application)
No. 11-266090

Japan

(Number)
(番号)

(Country)
(国名)

(Number)
(番号)

(Country)
(国名)

I hereby claim foreign priority under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119 (a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Priority Not Claimed

優先権主張なし

20/September/1999

(Day/Month/Year Filed)
(出願年月日)

☐

(Day/Month/Year Filed)
(出願年月日)

☐

私は、第35編米国法典119条(e)項に基づいて下記の米国外特許出願規定に記載された権利をここに主張いたします。

(Application No.)
(出願番号)

(Filing Date)
(出願日)

(Application No.)
(出願番号)

(Filing Date)
(出願日)

私は、下記の米国法典第35編120条に基づいて下記の米国外特許出願に記載された権利、又は米国を指定している特許協力条約365条(c)に基づき権利をここに主張します。また、本出願の各請求範囲の内容が米国法典第35編112条第1項又は特許協力条約で規定された方法で先行する米国外特許出願に開示されていない限り、その先行米国外特許提出日以降で本出願書の日本国内または特許協力条約国際提出日までの期間中に入乎された、連邦規則法典第37編1条56項で定義された特許資格の有無に関する重要な情報について開示義務があることを認識しています。

(Application No.)
(出願番号)

(Filing Date)
(出願日)

(Application No.)
(出願番号)

(Filing Date)
(出願日)

私は、私自身の知識に基づいて本宣言書中で私が行なう表明が真実であり、かつ私の入手した情報と私の信じていることに基づき表明が全て真実であると信じていること、さらに故意になされた虚偽の表明及びそれと同等の行為は米国法典第18編第1001条に基づき、罰金または拘禁、もしくはその両方により処罰されること、そしてそのような故意による虚偽の声明を行なえば、出願した、又は既に許可された特許の有効性が失われることを認識し、よってここに上記のごとく宣誓を致します。

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, Section 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of application.

(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)
(現況: 特許許可済、係属中、放棄済)

(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)
(現況: 特許許可済、係属中、放棄済)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Japanese Language Declaration

(日本語宣言書)

委任状: 私は下記の発明者として、本出願に関する一切の手続きを米特許商標局に対して遂行する弁理士または代理人として、下記の者を指名いたします。(弁理士、または代理人の氏名及び登録番号を明記のこと)

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith (list name and registration number)

Michael N. Meller, Reg. No. 20,779

Eugene Lieberstein, Reg. No. 24,645

書類送付先

Send Correspondence to:

Anderson Kill & Olick
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020-1182

直接電話連絡先: (名前及び電話番号)

Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number)

Michael N. Meller, Esq.
1-212-278-1000

唯一または第一発明者名

Full name of sole or first inventor

AKIRA MASHIMO

発明者の署名

日付

Inventor's signature

Date

Akira Mashimo September 14, 2000

住所

Residence

Tokorozawa-Shi, Saitama-Ken, Japan

国籍

Citizenship

Japan

私書箱

Post Office Address

1-3031-84, Wagahara, Tokorozawa-Shi,

Saitama-Ken, Japan

第二共同発明者

Full name of second joint inventor, if any

KEISHI UENO

第二共同発明者

日付

Second inventor's signature

Date

Keishi Ueno September 14, 2000

住所

Residence

Hanno-Shi, Saitama-Ken, Japan

国籍

Citizenship

Japan

私書箱

Post Office Address

23-18, Yanagicho, Hanno-Shi,

Saitama-Ken, Japan

(第三以降の共同発明者についても同様に記載し、署名をすること)

(Supply similar information and signature for third and subsequent joint inventors.)